fighting positions that we have already cleared. He is able to maneuver into our flanks and rear and we lose all momentum. A good SBF plan can prevent this catastrophic turn of events.

There are two keys to making an internal support-by-fire plan work inside the objective: First, the SBF element must locate where it can best observe the next trench or bunker the assault team will enter, and it must also secure itself. Second, it must be controlled by strict fire control measures during the entire execution of actions on the objective. The assault leader who plans and rehearses these control measures in detail will be able to synchronize his combat power, knock the enemy off balance, and seize and hold the objective.

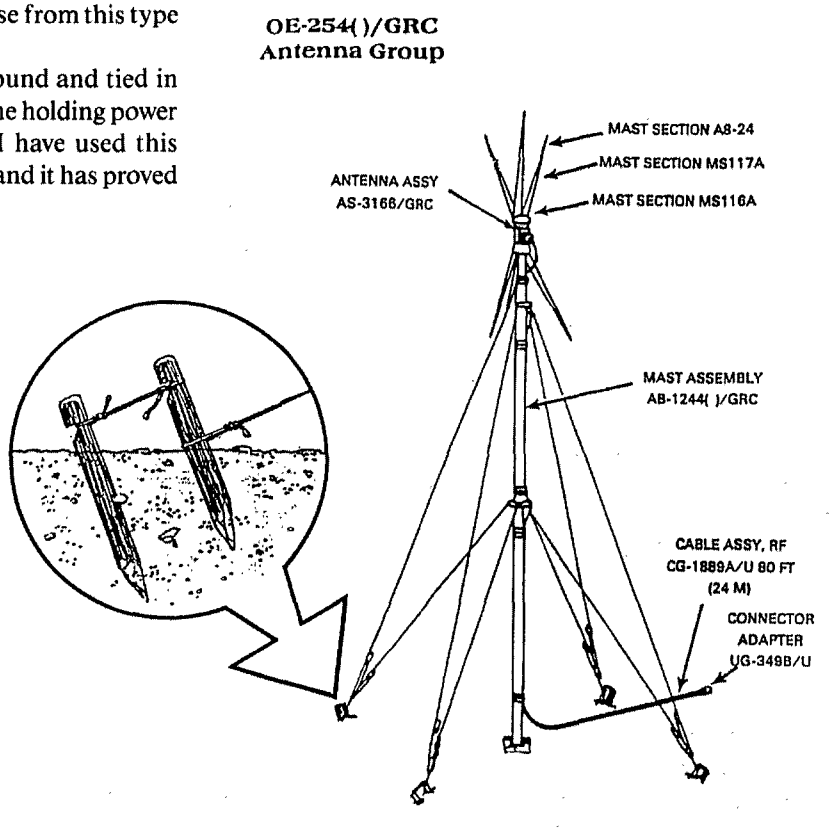
Captain Glenn M. Connor commanded the headquarters and headquarters company and Company A, 4th Battalion, 27th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division. He has also served in the 4th Infantry Division, and as Aide-de-Camp to the Deputy Commanding General, U.S. Army, Pacific. He is a 1986 graduate of the United States Military Academy and is now attending graduate school at the Colorado School of Mines.

SWAP SHOP

STAKING AN ANTENNA ASSEMBLY

Securing an antenna assembly such as the OE-254 on very soft ground or sand can be tricky. Over the past 15 years, I have seen several such assemblies come loose and fall on soldiers. With masts more than 30 feet high, and with the weight of the antenna near the top, it doesn't take much for the support stakes to work loose from this type of ground.

Two stakes driven deeply into the ground and tied in tandem (see insert) can greatly increase the holding power of the stake attached to the support. I have used this method as far back as the Vietnam war, and it has proved 100 percent successful.



(Submitted by Lieutenant Colonel David M. Fiedler, New Jersey Army National Guard, Retired.)